

In case you missed it, the following are highlights from the May 3, 2023, Cape Coral City Council meeting.

Council Approves Resolution 93-23 Hiring Design Firm for Jaycee Park Improvements Resolution 93-23 approves an agreement for Pennoni Associates to proceed with design services for Jaycee Park improvements. With its prime location and approximately 1,300 feet of shoreline along the Caloosahatchee River, the park has an opportunity to become a desired waterfront destination within the City. The design contract includes public involvement tasks, allowing community members to provide input and have questions answered as design concepts are developed.

Council Approves Resolution 92-23 for Phase 2 of Fire Department Training Facility Construction

City Council approved ordinance 92-23, awarding the contract for Phase 2 of the Cape Coral Fire Department Training Facility to Wright Construction. The CCFD needs access to a fire training facility within Cape Coral and must provide 18 hours of training for each firefighter. The facility will be located on City-owned property adjacent to the Southwest Reclamation Facility and is estimated to be completed by October 2024.

Council Approves Resolution 38-23 Granting Organ Donor/Recipient Leave

Ordinance 38-23 was approved, allowing employees to receive leave time for donating or receiving an organ or bone marrow transplant. Ordinance 38-23 establishes Organ Donor and Recipient Leave, granting employees up to 40 hours of leave when absent due to the donation or receipt of bone marrow and up to 160 hours when absent due to the donation or receipt of an organ.

Yacht Club Update

The Boathouse Restaurant is anticipated to reopen at the end of May. Public Works will clear the parking lot of debris and ensure the lot lights are functional. Temporary fencing and signs for closed amenities will be in place for the reopening.

The public boat ramp remains closed to the community. FDEM and FWC are using the boat ramp for derelict vessel removal, and Lee County is repairing waterway navigation aids.

These agencies will use the public boat ramp through Aug. 31, 2023. A two-month extension is allowed if approved by City Council.

The Yacht Club Beach remains closed as the City continues working with FEMA for reimbursement for sand refurbishment. Divers will secure the pier and look for loose debris in the water. The City has not yet received a determination from FEMA on reimbursement.

The Marina and all other Yacht Club Community Park amenities are closed.

Due to the extent of damage received during Hurricane Ian, the remaining Yacht Club Community Park buildings will be demolished.

An asbestos study has been completed, and a bid package for demolition is underway. Bidding is anticipated to begin in July. Demolition is expected to start in September, pending FEMA approval.

The future waterside design and construction, including seawalls, a boat ramp, and a marina, is contingent on ACOE and DEP permits.

City staff is reviewing the design scope for the landside master plan, which is anticipated to be complete in the next few months. The master plan will be presented to council for approval. After approval, design and permitting will begin. This entire process could take 9-12 months.

Upcoming Public Meetings

A Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chambers.